

# Introducing The Assignment Handler



## Building Flexibility In Handling Student Assignments And Supporting Effective Feedback Online

Today, students are increasingly demanding the ability to submit assignments, receive feedback, and see their grades online. They regard it as a natural part of their online learning experience, and expect feedback to be clear, timely, and actionable.

To meet this challenge and secure student satisfaction, Blackboard Consulting worked with Sheffield Hallam University to extend the functionality of the Blackboard Learn™ platform to improve the way in which assignments are processed and enhance the way in which feedback is provided. Your institute can now benefit from this development as well through our custom consulting engagements.

*“Requiring students to reflect on their feedback in order to activate the release of their grade encourages students to engage with the process of reflection”*

*“It made my life and the students’ lives more straightforward”*

Tutor feedback received after the implementation of the Assignment Handler at Sheffield Hallam University

### Managing Effective Feedback Through The Blackboard Grade Center

The Assignment Handler extension to Blackboard supports effective feedback online through the Blackboard Grade Center, including the adaptive release of grades. Students are encouraged to engage with their feedback and identify key learning points in order to activate the release of their grades, and student action plans can be linked into their personal development planning. For staff, additional benefits of the Assignment Handler include batch upload of feedback file attachments along with accompanying student grades to the Grade Center.

The Assignment Handler has proved to be a valuable extension of Sheffield Hallam University’s virtual learning environment, saving staff time and administrative burden, while providing students with the clear, timely, and actionable feedback they have come to expect.

# SUPPORTING BOTH FLEXIBLE ASSIGNMENT SUBMISSIONS AND EFFECTIVE ONLINE FEEDBACK

## Supporting Flexible Submissions

- Enabling staff to set up individual and group assignments quickly and easily with the assignment brief presented at the point of submission
- Allowing students to submit their assignments anytime, anyplace, anywhere, and providing them with a detailed receipt for their work, whether the work is submitted online or in a non-electronic format
- Storing electronically submitted assignments within the Blackboard Grade Center for easy access
- Automatically renaming uploaded and submitted assignment files with the module code and student number to make them easier to manage
- Providing an at-a-glance check in the Grade Center of who has not submitted to identify at-risk students
- Application of file upload and submission quotas on an individual assignment basis

## Supporting Online Feedback

- Encouraging students to engage with their feedback, and identify key learning points in order to activate the release of their grade
- Allowing for the batch upload of file attachments providing detailed feedback with accompanying grades to the Grade Center, whether the original work was submitted online or in a non-electronic format
- Automating the release of feedback, in order that all students enrolled on the module receive their feedback for the assignment at the same time, along with an e-mail notification of the feedback availability

*"I think it's a good idea because it does help you track your feedback and improve yourself on it"*

*"I wrote down what I thought about their feedback...you can set yourself targets"*

Student feedback received after the implementation of the Assignment Handler at Sheffield Hallam University

## For More Information

If you are interested to learn more about the design, development, and functionality of this tool, or if you would like to have more information on how Blackboard can help your institution enhance the way you process assignments and feedback, please contact your Blackboard account manager.

For a complete overview of how we help engage and assess learners at all levels, visit us at

[www.blackboard.com/learn](http://www.blackboard.com/learn)

